Appl. No. 08/210,902 Amdt. dated 11/18/03 Reply to Office action f August 18, 2003

Remarks

Prosecution of this application had been suspended due to Interference No. 103,815, which has now been terminated. The Examiner has indicated that claims 9-11 were previously determined to not correspond to the count and thus were not part of the interference proceeding.

The Examiner has objected to claim 9 as being dependent upon claims lost in Interference 103,815. Therefore, Applicants have amended claim 9 so that it is written in independent form. Claims 10 and 11 now properly depend from amended independent claim 9. Applicants have herein (or previously) cancelled claims 1-8 and 12-20.

Applicants have added new claims 21 – 24. Support for new claim 21 may be found in cancelled claim 4, as well as at page 6, lines 30-32 of the specification. No new matter has been added. Support for new claim 22 may be found in cancelled claim 6, as well as at page 8, lines 30-32 of the specification. No new matter has been added. Support for new claims 22-23 may be found in cancelled claims 12 and 14, respectively, as well as at page 5, lines 16-18, page 7, lines 24-26, page 10, lines 1-19, page 13, lines 27-35, and page 14, lines 26-36 of the specification. No new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully assert that claims 9-11 and 21-24 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request that a notice of allowance be issued in this case. Should the Examiner feel a discussion would expedite the prosecution of this application; the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Noel Kaman

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